



hf happenings

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the week of 7 September 2015



Congratulations to Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II who at 17:30 UTC on 9 September 2015 became the longest reigning British head of state.

Queen Victoria reigned from 20 June 1837 to 22 January 1901 - 23 226 days or 63 years and 216 days. Queen Elizabeth II started her reign on 6 February 1952 and on 9 September 2015, she reached 23 226 days or 63 years and 215 days.

Queen Elizabeth II's reign in years and days appears one day shorter than Queen Victoria's at the point at which they match in total days. This is because the year 1900 (during Victoria's reign) was not a leap year whereas the year 2000 (during Elizabeth's reign) was. Thus, there were 15 leap years in Victoria's reign and 16 in Elizabeth's up to that point.

The Provisional Results of the South African Radio League HF CW Contest

The committee received 15 logs and 1 check log for the HF CW Contest held on 30 August 2015.



- 1st Roger Jones, ZS6RJ, 332 points
- 2nd Joop Hesp, ZS6JP, 144 points
- 3rd Pierre van Deventer, 136 points
- 4th Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR, 124 points
- 5th George Schleger, ZS1II, 100 points
- 6th Bruce Dunn, ZS5XT, 94 points
- 7th Jack Welch, 5R8SV, 58 points
- 8th Mahomed Dildar, ZS5BBW, 54 points
- 9th Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, 48 points
- 10th Barrie Brokenshaw, ZS6AJY, 40 points
- 11th Stephan van Jaarsveld, ZS6SVJ, 26 points
- 12th Paul Greeff, ZS6IO, 24 points
- 13th Jimmy Momberg, ZS6APS, 14 points
- 14th Pam Momberg, ZS6APT, 8 points
- 15th Mac Kumakura, JO7KMB, 6 points

A check log was received from Fred da Silva, ZS1ZV.

Highest score on a single band

- 1st Roger Jones, 294 points on 20 metres
- 2nd Joop Hesp, ZS6JP, 70 points on 20 metres
- 3rd Jack Welch, 5R8SV, 58 points on 20 metres

Club Competition

- 1st West Rand ARC, 476 points
- 2nd Old Goats ARG, 136 points
- 3rd Pretoria ARC, 124 points
- 4th Highway ARC, 94 points
- 5th Centurion ARC, 72 points
- 6th Lichtenburg ARC, 48 points



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925



Congratulations to Roger, ZS6RJ, and to the West Rand ARC.

Thank you to Pierre, ZS6A, and Roger, ZS6RJ, who corrected the formula error in the MS Excel spreadsheet.

Soapbox

We have sent our logs in for what they are worth. We were interrupted by visitors who put a damper on an afternoon of fun. Thanks for the contest. 73 & 88 Jimmy, ZS6APS, and Pam, ZS6APT

Please find attached my log for the SARL HF CW from 30 August 2015. We had guests over for dinner, so I was only able to work the first hour. Good signal from both South African and Japan. All my contacts were on the 20 metre band. Thanks for running the event & 73 Jack, 5R8SV

I've fixed the formula errors in the sheet. I have also left in the dupes as one should for cross-referencing. ZS6A for example. You'll also note the odd "high" serial number from DX stns. 9A9XX gave me a high number on 20 metres. Generally, I find, if there's not another contest on the go (which there wasn't), this is because folks try to send you a pre-programmed serial number from their function key with whatever software they use, and it sends the next number in the sequence from their previous contest effort hi. 73, Roger, ZS6RJ

Enigma Event

An international event between 12 and 25 September. Members of the ARI Fidenza will be activating special call signs IO4ENG and IQ4FE during the "Enigma Event."

The Enigma



September

- 2 – Secretary's Day
- 3 Closing date October RAE
- 4 – Casual Day; 1 SA Tank Regiment Night Shoot
- 5 – SA Armour Museum Open Day
- 6 – Closing date for HF CW Logs; Cellar Rats Wine Festival, The Old Mill, Magaliesburg
- 5 and 6 - IARU Region 1 SSB Field Day
- 12 and 13 – SARL National Field Day
- 14 and 15 - Rosh Hashanah
- 16 – World Ozone Day
- 19 - Amateur Radio in Action, Pretoria
- 19 and 20 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest; SAC CW Contest
- 20 – Closing date for National Field Day logs
- 23 - Yom Kippur; Spring Equinox
- 24 – National Braai Day (National Heritage Day)
- 25 – School holiday
- 26 – Live Free Fun Walk, Bloemfontein Zoo; Namaqua West Coast Heritage Weekend, Doringbaai
- 26 and 27 - CQ WW RTTY Contest
- 27 – Closing date for VHF/UHF logs

October

- 1 - SARL 80 metre QSO Party
- 2 – All schools close
- 3 – SARL Spring QRP Contest
- 4 – RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest
- 10 and 11 - AWA Valve QSO Party
- 12 - All schools open
- 15 – Radio Amateur Examination
- 16 to 18 – Jamboree-on-the-Air
- 17 – CQ Hou Koers; Emoya Voetspoorfees
- 24 – Crafters Market, Bloemfontein
- 24 and 25 – CQ WW DX Phone Contest

Event consists of exchanging amateur radio messages over the air encrypted with the Enigma code of WW II memory to commemorate its importance in the history of communications and encryption. The Event Enigma is one of the "European Researchers' Night" events on 25 Sept when a number of initiatives will be organised by the European research and cultural institutions. An Amateur Radio Award (Enigma Award) is associated with this event. The amateur activity of the Enigma Award will start on 12 Sept. All details and rules are available on the official Web site at <http://www.enigma-reloaded.it>



CQ Hou Koers 2015

Goeiedag Voortrekkers en amateur-radio vriende,

Dis amper tyd vir *CQ Hou Koers* 2015! Merk julle kalenders vir Saterdag 17 Oktober.

CQ Hou Koers is Die Voortrekkers se nasionale amateurradiodag waarop kinders met ander Vories van regoor die land per amateurradio kan gesels. Kontakte met Scouts en oorsese stasies is ook moontlik.

Voortrekkers, tref solank reëlings met julle plaaslike radio amateurs of amateurradioklubs. Radio amateurs, bied gerus hulp aan by die plaaslike Voortrekkerkommandos. Voortrekkers kan my e-pos indien julle hulp benodig om 'n radio amateur te kontak.

Ek hoor graag van mede-amateurs en Vories rondom idees vir *CQ Hou Koers* 2015.

Die belangrikste is om die jongklomp konstruktief besig te hou, by die radio's en ook tussendeur. Kinders geniet aktiewe spelletjies en 'n mens kan radio met groot nut inspan by iets soos 'n radiogebaseerde skattejag of mini-"amazing race" konsep.

Bevestig asseblief deelname/ belangstelling. Dit is om my in staat te stel om 'n nuwe lys van deelnemende Voortrekker-groepe en radio amateurs saam te stel.

Dankie vir julle belangstelling en hulp. Versprei asseblief hierdie boodskap aan ander belangstellende Voortrekkers en radio amateurs.

Ek beveel aan dat die betrokke volwasse Voortrekkers en radio amateurs vooraf bymekaarkom vir gesamentlike beplanning vir elke stasie. Stuur enige e-pos rondom *CQ Hou Koers* aan cq@orionvoortrekkers.co.za

Voortrekker groete / 73

Andries Visagie, ZS6VL, Nasionale koördineerder: *CQ Hou Koers*

NCDXF Beacons

The Northern California DX Foundation sponsors a network of worldwide beacons on 20 through 10 meters. These can provide an important tool for which bands are open at particular times. In the days preceding a contest, it can be useful to monitor these beacons to understand what you can hear from your station at various points during the day.

<http://www.ncdxf.org/pages/beacons.html>.

On a particular schedule, stations in various parts of the world transmit a readily identifiable CW signal at varying power levels. There are beacon id programs for your desktop computer and smartphone to help determine which beacon you hear, or should be hearing. The beacons are reduced in utility during contest weekends as operators forget about them and use the beacon frequencies.

<http://www.ncdxf.org/beacon/beaconprograms.html>

Top Band Beacons

OK1RP has put together an updated list of Top band-related beacons, which can sometimes be heard on or near 160 metres. Though it is nice to know where a beacon originates, sometimes it is enough just to know 160 metres is open. Another technique for 160 metres is to monitor the top end of the AM Broadcast band.

<http://160mband.blogspot.com/2015/07/160m-band-beacons-list.html>

Bums and Eyes

It is not good to get sore from sitting around, contesting. The Cleveland Clinic has some suggestions on how to treat your body better, through better posture.

http://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/ns_overview/hic_Posture_for_a_Healthy_Back

A better contest score depends on your 'butt in seat' time. Today, with all of the information available to us during a contest, controlling everything can be daunting at

times. If one were to combine the use of the butt in seat with a special seat to control things... we would need a combination of technologies to get the job done. TI may be in the right place at the right time.

They have an example design www.ti.com/tool/tida-00314 that combines a multi-axis inductance-to-digital converter, along with a haptic-feedback IC, to enable a sealed ("environmentally resistant!") design, which can not only take input, but also provide feedback. If you're familiar with newer Apple laptop hardware with Force Touch track pads, you may be familiar with the use of haptic feedback to trick our brains into thinking pressing on a fixed, sealed metal plate actually causes movement. Imagine if at the next 'send CW with your glutes' contest, you are faced with a butt-sized paddle? Feedback would definitely be helpful, and perhaps even inspirational. One could imagine the further refinement of haptic technology to suit our contesting needs: a peripheral used during the contest to enable additional logging functions. Imagine adding another special-function Shift key? Butt switch inputs, both left and right. Special feedback to announce the spot of a needed mult. Behinders, er, reminders to switch bands as the rate drops. Such a peripheral could be just the kick in the pants needed to make it through the slow times.

If you are experiencing eye strain or just want a change of scenery during heavy logging program use, try a different font for better readability. A typeface is available which is optimised for 8 - 12 pixel fonts on modern display equipment. Using the typeface Hack, lowercase "l" and the number "one" is easily distinguishable and zero stands apart from the letter "O"

<http://sourcefoundry.org/hack/>
<http://lists.contesting.com/pipermail/cq-contest/2015-August/110709.html>.

Cabrillo Log Specifications

Trey Garlough, N5KO, created the Cabrillo specification to provide a log file

format that computer-logging programs could generate, computerised scoring programs could digest, yet remained editable with a text editor.

Now in its third version, the Cabrillo Standard <http://wwrof.org/cabrillo/cabrillo-specification-v3/> has a home on the web site of the WWROF <http://wwrof.org>. You may need to consult the standard if you're a contest sponsor and have special entry categories that log scoring has to handle, or if you're running a contest-within-a-contest and require some special fields, or if you're wondering why the contest robot is rejecting your log.

There are all manner of tools to convert to/from Cabrillo available at your beck and search engine query. The ARRL offers a tutorial on the format, including a template for the ARRL Sweepstakes <http://www.arrl.org/cabrillo-format-tutorial>.

Paper Certificates

Sending out paper certificates to contest participants can be expensive. Considering the cost of reasonably nice paper, an envelope, printing and postage, it could be several dollars per certificate. To reduce costs, some contests have changed to provide a self-print option for certificate winners. The CQ WW Contest committee is soliciting opinions on "the future of paper certificates" via their blog.

<http://cqww.com/blog/the-future-of-paper-certificates>



African DX

Tanzania. Chas, NK8O will be active in his spare time as 5H3DX from Zinga, Tanzania between 4 and 28 September. He will oper-

ate mainly CW on 20 to 6 metres ("I love to rag chew," he says, "if I am in the middle of a QSO, please wait your turn and do not interrupt"). QSL via NK8O (direct), LoTW and eQSL.

Niger, 5U. On 23 April 2015, Tola, 5N1UKO was active as 5N1UKO/5U and made 31 QSOs on 15 metres SSB, operating "from his mobile setup at a construction site in Zindar, Niger." His QSL manager, NOUN, also reports that Tola - who "has not submitted any paperwork to the DXCC Desk" for this limited operation - hopes "to have a 5U call sign granted in the near future," as his work calls for him to go between Nigeria and Niger for the next twelve months.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Cape Verde, D4. Chris, DL2MDU and Heike, DL3HD will be active as D44TUK and D44TUQ respectively from Boa Vista (AF-086), Cape Verde between 11 and 25 September. They will operate CW and digital modes on 80 to 10 metres. QSL via home calls.

St. Brandon, 3B7. Pat, 3B8FA, will be active as 3B7FA from St. Brandon (AF-015) between 29 and 31 October. Activity will be limited and on 20, 15 and 10 meters using mostly the digital modes. QSL via LoTW, or via his home call sign.

Seychelles, S7. With little over two months before their departure, the S79C team confirms, "plans are definite and large deposits have already been paid to the relevant departments. We have obtained all necessary permits, both to visit and operate from Coetivy" (AF-119, new one for IOTA), and all individual flights have now been booked. The

whole team will meet up in Mahe, capital of the Seychelles, on 14 and 15 November and leave for Coetivy on the 16th. Plans are to have six stations active at peak times and station design and antennas are currently being discussed. Donations are gratefully accepted, because "a private airplane charter is needed to access the island, costs are terrifically high". See <http://af119new.com/> for full information, updates and latest Tweets from the team.

History this week

The week starting 7 September 2015



1533 - Queen Elizabeth 1 was born. Her parents were Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. Queen Elizabeth I reigned for 44 years and 127 days

1776 - The United States of America is created

1941 - The German forces start the blockade of Leningrad

1943 - German forces occupy Rome and take over the protection of the Vatican City

1943 - German paratroopers rescue Mussolini

1948 - The Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea is proclaimed (call prefix P5)

1953 - John F Kennedy marries Jacqueline Bouvier

1976 - Moa Zeding dies

1986 - Desmond Tutu becomes the Archbishop of Cape Town

1990 - East and West Germany and the World War II Allies sign a treaty allowing for the re-unification of Germany

1999 - The Bundestag returns to Berlin

2015 - HRH Queen Elizabeth II becomes the longest reigning British head of state (9 Sept)

2941 (SR) Bilbo finds Thorin's cell (7 Sept)

2941 (SR) the White Council meets and Saruman agrees to an attack on Dol Guldor (8 Sept)

2941 (SR) Dol Guldor is assaulted (10 Sept)

3001 (SR) SAURON appears in MORDOR (12 Sept)

2951 (SR) ARAGORN goes in to the wild (13 Sept)

3018 (SR) Gandalf has still not returned (13 Sept)

3019 (SR) Celeborn and Galadriel depart, the others set out for Rivendell (13 Sept)

Get on the **RaDAR**....and GO!

RADAR
GOES GLOBAL

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 7 to 14 September 2015

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 9 September

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 11 September 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf



CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 10 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 12 September 2015

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, SSB

19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 September

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 16 September 2015

Upload log at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/rsprint.shtml>

NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 11 September

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO;
non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA
station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and
KH6) once per band; Each VE province once
per band; Each North American country (ex-
cept W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 13 September 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 11 September
Mode: (see rules)
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 13 September 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

FOC QSO Party
00:00 - 23:59 UTC 12 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: FOC-Member: RST, name and
member no; non-Members: RST and name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: FOC-Member: Score =
Total QSOs/Total Member QSOs; non-
Member: Score = Total Member QSOs
Submit logs by: 26 September 2015

E-mail log summary to: kz5d@aol.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://g4foc.org/qsoparty/>

WAE DX SSB Contest
00:00 UTC 12 September to 23:59 UTC 13
September
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - high or low; Multi-Op;
SWL
Max operating hours: Single Op: 36 hours,
off times of at least 60 minutes; Multi-
Single: 48 hours
Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts
Exchange: RS and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 28 September 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at:
<http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/logupload/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/en/rules/>

Kulikovo Polye Contest
00:00 - 23:59 UTC 12 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 20 m Only
Classes: Single Op - low, high or super
Max power: Super: no limit; High: 1 000 W or
less; Low: 100 W or less
Exchange: KP: RST and "KP"; non-KP: RST
and serial no
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points
Submit logs by: 27 September 2015
E-mail logs to: log@kpctest.ru
Upload log at:
http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en
n
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.kpctest.ru/?pg=content/ruleen>

SARL Field Day Contest

10:00 UTC 12 September to 10:00 UTC 13 September

Mode: CW, SSB, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single-Op Field - QRP or high; Multi-Op Field - QRP or high; Ultra Light Portable; General

Max power: QRP: 5 watts; non-QRP: >5 watts

Exchange: RS(T), number of transmitters, category (see rules) and province or DX

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 27 September 2015

E-mail logs to: zs4bfn@gmail.com

Mail logs to: SARL Field Day Contest, PO Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324, South Africa

Find rules at:

http://www.sarl.org.za/Document_Store/CO NT 20150101 SARL Contest Manual 2015.pdf

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon

12:00 UTC 12 September to 24:00 UTC 13 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max operating hours: 24

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or NONE

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 19 September 2015

Post log summary at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/submit-display.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

Arkansas QSO Party

14:00 UTC 12 September to 02:00 UTC 13 September

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 2 m

Classes: Single Op - SSB or mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op CW - low or high; RTTY/PSK Only; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi; Single Op Mobile; Multi-Op Mobile; Single Op Portable; Multi-Op Portable; Single Op Rover; Multi-Op Rover

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: AR: RS(T) and county; non-AR: RS(T) and state, province or DX

Work stations: Once per band per mode per county

QSO Points: 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW QSO; 3 points per digital QSO; Bonus: 200 points per AA5AR or K5NE QSO

Multipliers: AR: Each AR county, state and province once and one "DX"; non-AR: Each AR county once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 26 September 2015

E-mail logs to: arkqsoparty@cox.net

Mail logs to: Arkansas QSO Party, c/o Don Banta, K5DB, 3407 Diana St., Springdale, AR 72764, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.arkqsoparty.com/#/rules/c205y>

Russian Cup Digital Contest

15:00 - 18:59 UTC 12 September and 06:00 - 09:59 UTC 13 September

Mode: RTTY, BPSK63

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high; Multi-Single

Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W

Exchange: Serial no and 4-character grid square

Work stations: Once per band per mode per session

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 28 September 2015

E-mail logs to: contest@radio.ru

Mail logs to: Russian Cup Digital Contest, Radio Magazine, Seliverstov per. 10, Moscow 107045, Russia

Find rules at:

<http://www.grz.ru/contest/detail/86.html>

Ohio State Parks on the Air

16:00 - 24:00 UTC 12 September

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op OH Park - low or high; Single Op - low or high; Multi-Single OH Park - low or high; Multi-Multi OH Park - low or high

Max power: LP: 100 watts; HP: >100 watts

Exchange: OH Park: park abbreviation; OH: "Ohio"; W/VE: state or province; DX: "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each OH park once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 September 2015

E-mail logs to: LOGS@ospota.org

Mail logs to: Ohio State Parks on the Air, c/o Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ, 9992 State Route 700, Mantua, OH 44255, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.ospota.org/ospota/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/OSPOTA-Rules2015-13Dec.pdf>

North American Sprint, CW

00:00 - 04:00 UTC 13 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max operating hours: 4 hours

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no, your name and your state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7) once; Each VE province once; Each North American country (except W/VE) once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 20 September 2015

E-mail logs to: (see rules, web upload preferred)

Upload log at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogsubmit/>

Mail logs to: Boring Amateur Radio Club, 15125 Bartell Road, Boring, OR 97009, USA

Find rules at:

<http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf>

Next Week's Contests

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 16 September

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 16 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 17 September

NAQCC CW Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 17 September

NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 18 September

NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 18 September

AGB NEMIGA Contest, 21:00 - 24:00 UTC 18 September

SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest, 10:00 UTC 19 September to 10:00 UTC 20 September

Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW, 12:00 UTC 19 September to 12:00 UTC 20 September

South Carolina QSO Party, 14:00 UTC 19 September to 03:00 UTC 20 September

New Jersey QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 19 September to 03:59 UTC 20 September

14:00 UTC-20:00 UTC 20 September

Washington State Salmon Run, 16:00 UTC 19 September to 07:00 UTC 20 September

16:00 UTC-24:00 UTC 20 September

QRP Afield, 16:00 - 22:00 UTC 19 September

Feld Hell Sprint, 18:00 - 19:59 UTC 19 September

North American Sprint, RTTY, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 20 September

Classic Exchange, CW, 13:00 UTC 20 September to 08:00 UTC 21 September and 13:00 UTC 22 September to 08:00 UTC 23 September

BARTG Sprint 75, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 20 September

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 21 September

A Good Ooops..

Researchers recently had a good oops and accidentally quadrupled a lithium ion battery's lifespan. The accident was leaving electrode materials in an acid bath too long; this put a titanium hydroxide coating on a core of aluminium... ("You've got your titanium hydroxide on my aluminium! You've got your aluminium in my titanium hydroxide!")

http://www.electronicproducts.com/Power_Products/Batteries_and_Fuel_Cells/Researchers_accidentally_quadruple_lithium_ion_battery_lifespan.aspx

The 1859 Solar Storm

A recap of the historic solar storm of 1859 was recently featured on spaceweather.com. The consequences of such an event in today's world would be severe.

<http://spaceweather.com/archive.php?view=1&day=02&month=09&year=2015>

Chess and Morse Code

Morse code and a camera were allegedly being used to cheat in a chess tournament, according to the BBC. The player was allegedly blinking out communications to a conspirator that was feeding moves into a computer and responding with moves.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34184940>

Word to the Wise - FSQ

FSQ stands for Fast Simple QSO. <http://www.qsl.net/zl1bpu/MFSK/FSQweb.htm>. Developed by ZL2AFP and ZL1BPU, it's a channelised communications mode designed for HF, which evolved from WSQ2. It features quick link turnaround time, and suitability

for propagation conditions found on HF. It is finding application in being used for 'chat' type communications. As it is channelised, it is not particularly suited for situations where the communications frequencies are not established beforehand.

Operating Tip


The band is open to Elbonia... I think. One way to tell is to use the reverse beacon network and choose a receiving site that is near you <http://www.reversebeacon.net/>. Hopefully, an Elbonian station is calling CQ, so that there's a chance that it can be picked up by the RBN. You can also CQ (using CW) and see if the Elbonian RBN receiver can hear you. Another way is to listen for fixed stations at known locations on particular frequencies in or near the amateur bands.

WinBD

W9IB and K2TXB have released an update to their WinBD program. This Windows application calculates bearing and distance to a four or six character grid location. It would be useful if you were VHF/UHF Roving.

<http://www.k2txb.com/WinBd.htm>

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, the Islands, the Amateur Radio Newsletter and the Castles and Portable Operations Bulletin



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SA Cell: +27 (0)82 552 4215
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